



**Special points of interest:**

- Welcome Letter from the Executive Director
- Become a Volunteer Today!
- Build the Habit of Good Attendance
- Emergency Contact Information
- Parent Trainings

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NEIGHBORS IN NEED OF SERVICES, INC.

# NINOS EXPRESS

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## Welcome Head Start/Early Head Start Parents

It has been two months since we opened our doors to the Head Start/Early Head Start families we are serving for the 2019-2020 school year. We hope you have taken the time to visit your local Head Start/Early Head Start Center and have met the center staff. At one time or another, your child will be supervised by all of the teachers and teacher aides; so please get to know all the teaching staff at your center.

Unfortunately, because of my work as the head of NINOS, Inc., I am not able to meet each one of you, but I can introduce myself to you in this letter. I have directed the Head Start Program since 1978, and I have been the Executive/Head Start Director since the inception of NINOS, Inc. I always make my decisions in the best interest of

your children. I firmly believe in partnering with the parents, families, and communities we serve. May this year be the beginning, but not the end, of a positive relationship with your child's teachers!

In our 29 years of service in Head Start/Early Head Start, we have served over 68,000 children. We have very strong support from our parents since we have helped many families through our partnerships.

We strive to make our program the best, as demonstrated by the award we received from the federal government as a Program of Excellence.

Please help us continue to excel. We need your help, your guidance, your communication, and your trust. We want you to know that we will nurture, respect, care for, love, and educate your children.



## Become a Volunteer Today!

Parents are the most important influence in their children's development. Parents who are highly involved in their children's lives have an opportunity to understand more about how their children grow and develop. Parent involvement is part of the comprehensive Head Start approach that makes parents true partners in the education of their children. An essential part of each Head Start program is the involvement of parents in parent education, program planning, and other operating activities. Head Start/Early Head Start encourages both parent and community volunteers to participate in the program. Volunteers will receive recognition for their time and effort during our

April Volunteer Recognition Banquet. We are inviting all parents to help at the centers, on field trips, with fund-raisers, or with home activities. We urge you to get involved in your children's development by volunteering. Orientations will be

provided for our volunteers, who are always welcomed at the centers!

**"Parents are the most important influence of a child's development"**

NINOS, Inc. provides a variety of opportunities for parent involvement, so that you may become involved to the level to which you are able. Some of these opportunities include:

- Participating in Parent/Child Activities (homework)
- Providing input in curriculum planning
- Serve on HS/EHS Policy Council
- Attending Parent Committee Meetings
- Volunteering (classroom or non-classroom)
- Attend on-going parent training and other trainings offered by the program throughout the year
- Participating in Parent/Teacher Conferences and home visits.

## Build the Habit of Good Attendance

### DID YOU KNOW?

Showing up on time every day is important to your child's success and learning from preschool forward.

Missing 10% of preschool (one or two days every few weeks) can:

- ◆ Make it harder to develop early reading skills.
- ◆ Make it harder to get ready for kindergarten and first grade.
- ◆ Develop poor attendance pattern that's hard to break.

The routine your child develops in preschool will continue throughout school. Let's get all our children ready to go to school every day!



### WHAT YOU CAN DO?

Work with your child and his/her teacher to help your child develop strong attendance.

- ◆ Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- ◆ Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- ◆ Develop back-up plans for getting to preschool if something comes up.
- ◆ And schedule medical appointments and extended trips when preschool is not in session.



## Emergency Contact Information

To be prepared for emergencies, we need to be able to communicate with you as soon as possible. It is very important that you keep us informed of any change of address and/or telephone number at all times. Please give us a name and number of a person (s) to notify in case of an emergency. You can also subscribe

to our email listing as well. Inform your center staff you would like to opt in to receive email notification from our agency. Subscribers will be kept up to date on the latest news, event and alerts from our agency such as classroom closures or emergency that may occur during the program term. Subscribe to our email listing today!



## Parent Trainings



Parent Orientations are scheduled during the months of August and September. And throughout the year, the following training sessions will be given at the centers:

- Pedestrian Safety & Transportation
- Domestic Violence
- Child Abuse and Prevention
- Health Disabilities
- Nutrition
- Transition
- Education and Early Childhood Development (Children & Adults)
- Community Services/Emergency Assistance
- Safety Practices
- Continuing Education

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